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# Savannah River Site CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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Aiken, SC 20802

A Department of Energy Site-Specific Advisory Board

July 24, 2007

Mr. Mark A. Gilbertson  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Engineering and Technology  
Office of Environmental Management  
U. S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Gilbertson:

SUBJECT: Draft Engineering and Technology Roadmap

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Engineering and Technology Roadmap. As we understand it, the draft Roadmap answers a congressional mandate that identifies technology gaps in current programs and is also meant to identify a strategy with funding proposals to address them. The draft Roadmap is divided into three program areas: Waste Processing, Groundwater and Soil Remediation, and Deactivation and Decommissioning. Two issue-based committees of the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), the Waste Management (WM) Committee and the Facility Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee, contain these program areas.

For the most part, our committees are aware and agree with the "technology gaps" identified for SRS. One issue not addressed in the Groundwater and Soil Remediation area that may be more site-specific for SRS is the technology need to address the removal of Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPLs). Future revisions of the draft Roadmap may need to re-visit the technology gaps associated with this difficult-to-remove groundwater contaminant. As development of advance sampling and characterization technologies improve, we are interested in how this new data will impact current remedial action decisions.

A noticeable missing component of the current draft Roadmap is the strategy and funding proposals to address the identified technology gaps. This information is required to fully evaluate the cost benefits of pursuing the technical risks. We are pleased to see and support the role of the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) as DOE-EM's Corporate Laboratory. Also, we would like to know if SRNL will receive direct funding or will it rely on project-directed funding to complete its Corporate Laboratory mission.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the draft document. We hope you find our comments useful.

Sincerely,



Mr. Joe Ortaldo  
WM Committee Chair  
Aiken, SC 29803



Ms. Mary Drye  
FD&SR Committee Chair  
Grovetown, GA 30813

cc: Jeffrey Allison, Manager, Savannah River Operations Office  
Melissa Neilson, EM-13, DOE-HQ